





versterking van de indische gewapende magt, sedert eenen geruimen tyd, van hier is, en by voortdoring wordt uitgezonden, zal, wordt die magt met beleid aangevoerd, de opstand weldra beteugeld zyn, en de ontwikkeling van zoo veel krachten zal gewis kleem byzotten aan den zachteren geest van overreding, welke het myn vaste wil is, dat het Nederlandsch gezag in die gewesten kenschette.

“Ook in de verdere overzeesche bezittingen worden doeltreffende maatregelen tot vermeerdering van duurzame welvaart aangewend; in het byzonder zal de geheele operstelling der haven van Curaçao, aan handel, scheepvaart, landbouw en fabriek-wezen de ruime voordelen kunnen schenken, welke de ligging en gesteldheid van dat eiland schynen aantebieden.

“Ryks financiën zyn in eenen goeden staat. “De opbrengst der middelen is over het geheel allezins voldoende; by alle takken van Ryks ontvangsten, worden de weldadige gevolgen bespouwd van vastheid in het aangenomene stelsel, welks uitvoering, door de ondervinding, by de ambtenaren verbeterd, en welks naleving, door de gewoonte, by de schatplichtigen gemakkelijker wordt. De dienst van het vorig jaar laat een overschot na, hetwelk tot gedeeltelyke bestryding der behoeften van het volgende jaar zal kunnen worden aangewend, en, over het loopend jaar, mag men eens even gunstige uitkomst, met grond verwachten.

“De klagen van onderscheidene provincien, wegens ongelijke verdeling der grondbelasting, vorderen voorziening, en hebben dan ook myne byzondere aandacht bezig gehouden; het werk van het kadaaster is dien ten gevolge met verdubbelden yver voortgezet, en daardoor de mogelijkheid ontstaan, een ontwerp, tot wyziging van den aanslag, in deze zitting, aan U. Ed. Mog. voor te dragen; deze zaak is uit haren aard moeyelyk en ingewikkeld, en vereischt verdere grondige overweging; doch, voor zoo verre de uitslag nog onvolkomen zyn mogt, behoeft daarom eens aanvankelyke meer gelykmatige verdeling niet te worden verachoven; hare opvolgelyke invoering zal de gelegenheid overlaten tot herstel en verbetering van die onvolkomenheden, welke van zulk een moeyelyk werk onafschidbaar zyn.

“De wyzigingen, welke het tarief van inkomende en uitgaande regten zal bevorderen, zullen U. Ed. Mog. worden voorgedragen.

“In de door uwe vergadering toegestemde geldleening, ten behoeve onzer overzeesche bezittingen, is op eens weinig bezwarende wyze voorzien; daarby is al wederom het nut der instelling van het amortisatie-syndicaat ten volien gelieken.

“De derde jaarrekening dezer inrigting is onlangs gelideten; de algemeene vergadering heeft op nieuw kunnen overgaan tot de volledige goedkeuring der verrigtingen van hare permanente commissie en tevens het gevoelen geuit, dat, gedurende het tegenwoordig boekjaar, de som, tot aflossing en vermindering van schuld, zal kunnen worden voorgedragen.

“Het afsluiten van den dienst van 1823, heeft de mogelijkheid daargesteld, om het bedrag, daaruit aanvankelyk voor dit jaar, ter bestryding van den loopenden dienst gebragt, voor het volgende jaar te vermeederen, en de voordelige toestand der goldmiddelen geeft my de aangename gelegenheid, om, zonder verschuiving van nuttige uitgaven, op nieuw eens vermindering van opcenten op sommige belastingen, aan U. Ed. Mog. voor te stellen.

“Ik vleye my in deze zitting aan U. Ed. Mog. te zullen kunnen aanbieden een ontwerp van wet op de rogerlyke organisatie, by welker opstelling de noodige acht is geslagen op de bedenkingen, welke tegen een vroeger ingeleverd ontwerp waren geopperd. Ook het wetboek van burgerlyke regtspleging is door de staats commissie van redactie der nationale wetgeving afgewerkt, en wordt op dit oogenblik rypelyk onderzocht; terwyl die commissie zich almede, met steeds voortdurenden yver, bezig houdt met het vervaardigen des wetboeks van strafvordering.

“Ik opene hiermede de vergadering van U. Ed. Mog. Eene wel gevestigde en gelukkige ondervinding strekt ten bewyze, dat de bevordering van 's Lands heil het eenig doel is onzer gemeenschappelyke en eensgezinde pogingen; en zoo mogen wy met vertrouwen des Hemels zegen over dezelve afbidden, en daarop by voortdoring hopen.”

“Heden werd de sedert eenen geruimen tyd reeds als comessalia by my inwonende Afrikaansche dame, Mevrouw de Lesawin, voorspoedig ontbonden, van vier welgeschapene kinderen, die zy het genoegen heeft allen zelve te zogen, zoo het schynt—om Neerlands gemakkelijke Dames in een dergelyk geval ten voorbeeld te dienen. Men verwondert zich over Mevrouws ongemeene vruchtbaarheid in een zoo koud klim, daar zy in haar vaderland met eens bevalling van drie kinderen zoude tevreden zyn. Kraam vrouw en kinderen bevinden zich tot heden redelyk wel. Familie en Vrienden worden verzocht ons met gene felicitatie brieven isstig te vallen.

W. VAN AKEN.

Rotterdam, den 30sten July 1826.

NEW YORK, Dec. 14.

Jongste berigten van Hayti.—Het volgende is een uittreksel van eenen brief, ontvangen door een Heer van deze stad, gedagteekend November laatstleden.

“De handel van het land is geheel en al te niet en er bestaat volstrekt geen vertrouwen meer. Daar is geen geld in circulatie, en ook weinige produkten welke maar luttel waardig zyn. Nuuswer was dit

land in zoodanig een ellendigen toestand als tegenwoordig. Duidanig is de staat der schakist, dat het gouvernement eene proklamatie heeft laten afkondigen, om papieren geld in omloop te brengen, welke ingevolge de publikatie op den 1sten October zou aanvang nemen; maar zy zyn nog niet verschenen; hetgene zekerlyk toetsbryven is aan het verzoekschrift hetwelke de kooplieden te Port-au-Prince aan den President ingeleverd hadden, verzoekende, dat het in omloop brengen van papieren geld mogt worden uitgesteld voor den tyd van 6 maanden, ten einde hen in staat te stellen hunne zaken te vereffenen. Zekerlyk om naderhand het land te verlaten. Al de generaals kommanderende de verschillende arrondissementen zyn opgeroepen geworden om eene groote byeenkomst te houden op den 20sten van deze maand; tot welk oogenblik, is het nog onbekend; maar wy vertrouwen dat deze byeenkomst ten doel mogt hebben, de verbetering van onzen toestand.”

Een ander brief van dezelfde dagteekening meldt:

“Ik ben geneigd te gelooven dat het gouvernement het gevaar begint intezien, waarin het zich bevindt, en zoude zoo het mogelijk ware, teruggaan; maar de chef en zyne aanbangers hebben zich dermate aan de Franschen verbonden, dat zy geene middelen hebben om zich aan de volstrekte slaverny en afskankelykheid te ontrukken, dan door geheel en al de betrekkingen welke zy met de Franschen aangeaan hebben, te verbreken.”

Wy hebben andere brieven doorgelezen, welke den toestand van Hayti ellendig afschilderen. Het volgende is een uittreksel van een derzelve:

“De droevige gevolgen, welke wy allen voorspeld hebben, na de eerste schets welke ons gegeven was, van de ordonnantie des konings, gedagteekend den 17den April 1825, worden meer dan bewaarheid, zoo dat wy slechts eens aanhaling behoeven te doen van dat meesterstuk van Fransche behendigheid, om U en de geheele wereld een regt begrip te geven van onze “volmaakte ellende” en van den tegenwoordigen en rampvollen toestand van onze zaken, zoo wel buiten als binnenlandsch. Zoodanig en verschrikkelijk zyn de uitwerkingen van de genadige akte van Karel X de liberale gelyk hy genoemd werd door zyne slaven, handlangers en dwazen te Port au Prince, om dat by hen in boeyens, dienstbaarheid en ellende gevoerd heeft.

“Gy zult ongetwyfeld gehoord hebben dat de generaals Nord, Propheet en anderen gearresteerd waren, om dat zy als verraders van hun land aangemerkt werden, wegens het opperen van eenige twyfel betrekkelijk de goede trouw van het Fransche gouvernement in deszelfs traktaat met Hayti.

“Zy zyn thans weder in vryheid; en die genen onder hen, die in hunne vorige posities wilden geplaatst worden, zyn daarin hersteld, maar eeuwige hunner zullen nooit meer dienen onder deze kleinmoedige en bedorvene administratie.”

New York, December 5.

Extract of a letter to the Editor of the Baltimore Gazette.

“Lima, August 5th, 1826.

“By the ship Rebecca Sims, of Philadelphia, we have sent you a file of the Lima and Chili newspapers—they contain very little matter for a foreign reader, nor will they so long as the press is under the controul of the government.

“The people of Peru generally feel dissatisfied with the proceedings of general Bolivar; he has dissolved their Congress, and has taken near five thousand of the Peruvian troops to Panama, leaving his Colombian troops in every village of the country to keep the people in awe, and to maintain his authority. Within the last month, some division of troops in the neighborhood of Hua Manga have revolted—crying, “Viva el Congreso,” &c.; and within these few days past, general Bolivar has arrested nearly all of the principal Peruvian and Buenos Ayrcan officers, which causes considerable agitation amongst the people. The government will undoubtedly endeavour to make it appear that they are concerned with the troops who have revolted, and try the whole of them for the crime of High Treason.

“It is hinted that general Bolivar wishes to unite the governments of Colombia, Peru and Bolivar in one, and to attain which by his emissaries, has caused one of his favorite generals in the north of Colombia to revolt against the established government! The new Constitution sent to the government of Bolivar, is not pleasing to the people generally, particularly that part of it which elects a President for five, without responsibility, and the right of naming his successor.

“If we can judge by the present movements of Bolivar, he will form an alliance with the emperor of Brazil, after which endeavour to conquer Chili and Buenos Ayres, then take the title of President. Emperor or King, of these countries, as may most suit his ambition of kings.

“Business on the coast very dull. Flour \$10 & 11 on board—only 2000 barrels afloat unsold.”

COMMUNICATION

Of the Superior Chief of Venezuela To His Excellency the President Liberator of Colombia; &c. &c. &c.

Head quarters Valencia, 3d January 1827.

Most Excellent Sir!

When on the 26th of April last, the order of the Supreme Executive Power was received, by which my suspension as Commander in Chief was made known, as well as the appointment of General Juan de Escalona as my successor—I have evinced my ready and blind resignation by causing my said successor to be acknowledged by the army, and proceeded to the necessary preparations for my voyage to Bogota, there to submit myself to the judgment of the Tribunal which was to take cognizance of my cause. This is a fact which cannot be doubted—it is proved by irrefragable documents and substantiated by a series of subsequent events—my intended march to the Capital of the Republic was the Spark which caused the explosion of the 30th of April—from which my numberless calumniators have deducted, that the political disturbances on that date have arisen from no other cause—and have been plotted with no other object, but to withhold the account due to the nation of my conduct in the exercise of my functions as Commander in Chief. This is not the proper time for me to prove how far these imputations are arbitrary. I have put my conscience to the test and found that I was not guilty of the perverse intentions attributed to me by injustice and ingratitude. I have foreseen at the very commencement of the disorder, that a period would come, when tranquility succeeding to the struggle of exalted passions, would enable me to lay before the nation an exact statement of my duty—Hence the declaration I have made to the world at large, in a manifest which I have published respecting the execution of the Decree of the Executive for the enrolment of the Militia. “That far from being under any apprehension as regards the judgment of the nation and that of impartial men, I would glory in the day, when, exonerated from the obligations which attach me to Venezuela, I would be judged for the conduct which I observed as Commander in Chief, previous to the 30th April last—and would willingly abide by the decision of my judges.” I conceive most Excellent Sir, that we have seen the dawn of that happy day—the authority of your Excellency as President of the Republic is acknowledged in Venezuela, which authority I have saved on the very day that I have sworn eternal disobedience to the government of Bogota. Your Excellency, by assuming the government of the Republic, have called again to existence order, tranquility and confidence. Hence it is my first duty to request your Excellency will immediately point out the Tribunal or the judges who are to take cognizance of my accusation and decide on the same—the charges against me have not been acquitted, but my trial has been deferred to this period, when at the shade of your Excellency's power, peace is happily restored to the Republic, and it would be disagreeable to me to continue as Superior Chief of Venezuela, with which rank your Excellency has honored me by the Decree of the 1st inst. without affording this public testimony of my obedience and submission to the Laws.

God preserve your Excellency,

Most Excellent Sir,

JOSÉ ANTONIO PAEZ.

Answer of His Excellency the President Liberator of the Republic.

General Secretary's Office of the Liberator Head Quarters Puerto Cabello, 3d January 1827—17th.

To His Excellency General in Chief José Antonio Paez, Superior Chief of Venezuela, &c.

Most Excellent Sir!

The Liberator has just received with inexpressible joy the testimony of Your Excellency's submission to the government of the Republic. This evidence of your Excellency's devotedness to Colombia—and respect to the Laws has filled the measure of your own glory and that of the national weal. On this occasion the President has thus expressed himself to me. “General Paez has yesterday saved the Republic to which he gave a new life, and by holding the last plank of that Bark which was wrecked amidst the horrors of war—convulsions of nature and civil dissensions, general Paez has preserved the country. In a hundred combats he has bravely exposed his life for the liberty of the nation, who, assuming the sovereignty has established her fundamental laws—these are the laws that have been violated and this the nation who owes him gratitude and admiration. He has this day presented us with domestic peace. Let us then, dismiss all complaints and lamentations—and like Scipio, give thanks to Heaven, for having destroyed the enemies of the Republic. This day shall echo with the accents of our joyful acclamations and those of our noble sentiments—General Paez far from being guilty is the saviour of the Country.” I am therefore directed by His Excellency to state to you, that agreeable to the Decree of the 1st inst. there exists no criminal in Venezuela, as regards the cause of the Reforms, and that all judgment on past events is a transgression of a sacred law which guarantees the welfare of the nation. I am with profound respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient Servant,

The General Secretary of State to the Liberator.

JOSE R. REVENGA.

FROM AMERICAN PAPERS.

New York, December 7.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

From the National Intelligencer, extra, of Tuesday.

The President of the United States transmitted, this day, to both Houses of Congress the following.

## MESSAGE.

Fellow Citizens of the Senate

and of the House of Representatives:

The Message of the Representatives of our Union in both Houses of Congress at this time occurs under circumstances calling for the renewed homage of our grateful acknowledgments to the Giver of all Good.—With the exceptions incidental to the most felicitous condition of human existence, we continue to be highly favored in all the elements which contribute to individual comfort and to national prosperity. In the survey of our extensive country, we have generally to observe abodes of health and regions of plenty. In our civil and political relations, we have peace without, and tranquility within our borders. We are, as a people, increasing with unabating rapidity in population, wealth, and national resources; and, whatever differences of opinion exist among us, with regard to the mode and the means by which we shall turn the beneficence of Heaven to the improvement of our own condition, there is yet a spirit animating us all, which will not suffer the bounties of Providence to be showered upon us in vain, but will receive them with grateful hearts, and apply them with unwearied hands, to the advancement of the general good.

Of the subjects recommended to the consideration of Congress at their last Session, some were then definitely acted upon. Others left unfinished, but partly matured, will recur to your attention, without needing a renewal of notice from me. The purpose of this communication will be, to present to your view the general aspect of our public affairs at this moment, and the measures which have been taken to carry into effect the intentions of the Legislature as signified by the laws then and heretofore enacted.

In our intercourse with the other nations of the earth, we have still the happiness of enjoying peace and a general good understanding—qualified, however, in several important instances, by collisions of interest, and by unsatisfied claims of justice, to the settlement of which, the constitutional interposition of the legislative authority may become ultimately indispensable.

By the decease of the Emperor Alexander of Russia, which occurred contemporaneously with the commencement of the last session of Congress, the United States have been deprived of a long tried, steady, and faithful friend. Born to the inheritance of absolute power, and trained in the school of adversity, from which no power on earth, however absolute, is exempt, that monarch, from his youth, had been taught to feel the force and value of public opinion, and to be sensible that the interests of his own government would best be promoted by a frank and friendly intercourse with this republic, as these of his people would be advanced by a liberal commercial intercourse with our country. A candid and confidential interchange of sentiments between him and the government of the United States, upon the affairs of Southern America, took place at a period not long preceding his demise, and contributed to fix that course of policy which left to the other governments of Europe no alternative but that of sooner or later recognizing the independence of our southern neighbors, of which the example had, by the United States, already been set. The ordinary diplomatic communications between his successor, the Emperor Nicholas, and the United States, have suffered some interruption by the illness, departure, and subsequent decease of his minister residing here, who enjoyed, as he merited, the entire confidence of his new sovereign, as he had eminently responded to that of his predecessor. But we have had the most satisfactory assurances, that the sentiments of the reigning Emperor towards the United States are altogether conformable to those which had so long and constantly animated his imperial brother; and we have reason to hope that they will serve to cement that harmony and good understanding between the two nations, which, founded in congenial interests, cannot but result in the advancement of the welfare and prosperity of both.

Our relations of commerce and navigation with France are, by the operation of the Convention of 24th June, 1822, with that nation, in a state of gradual and progressive improvement. Convinced, by all our experience, no less than by the principles of fair and liberal reciprocity, which the U. States have constantly tendered to all the nations of the earth, as the rule of commercial intercourse which they would universally prefer, that fair and equal competition is most conducive to the interests of both parties, the U. States, in the negotiation of that Convention, earnestly contended for a mutual renunciation of discriminating duties and charges in the ports of the two countries. Unable to obtain the immediate recognition of this principle in its full extent, after reducing the duties of discrimination, so far as was found attainable, it was agreed that, at the expiration of two years from the 1st of October, 1822, when the Convention was to go into effect, unless a notice of six months on either side should be given to the other, that the Convention itself must terminate, those duties should be reduced by one fourth; and that the reduction should be yearly repeated until all discrimination should cease, while the Convention itself should continue in force. By the effect of this stipulation, three fourths of the discriminating duties which had been levied by each party upon the vessels of the other in its ports, have already been removed; and, on the 1st of next October, should the Convention be still in force, the remaining fourth will be discontinued. French vessels, laden with French produce, will be received in our ports on the same terms as our own, and ours, in return, will enjoy the same advantages in the ports of France. By these approximations to an equality of duties and of charges, not only has the commerce between the two countries prospered, but friendly dispositions have been, on both sides, encouraged and promoted. They will continue to be cherished and cultivated on the part of the United States. It would have been gratifying to have had it in my power to add, that the claims upon the justice of the French government, involving the property and the comfortable subsistence of many of our fellow citizens, and which have been so long and so earnestly urged, were in a more promising train of adjustment than at your last meeting; but their condition remains unaltered.

With the government of the Netherlands, the mutual abandonment of discriminating duties had been regu-

lated by Legislative acts on both sides. The act of Congress of the 20th of April, 1818, abolished all discriminating duties of impost and Tonnage, upon the vessels and produce of the Netherlands in the ports of the United States, upon the assurance given by the government of the Netherlands, that all such duties operating against the shipping and commerce of the United States, in that Kingdom, had been abolished. These reciprocal regulations had continued in force several years, when the discriminating principle was resumed by the Netherlands in a new and indirect form, by a bounty of ten per cent. in the shape of a return of duties to their national vessels, and in which those of the United States are not permitted to participate. By the act of Congress of the 7th January, 1824, all discriminating duties in the United States were again suspended, so far as related to the vessels and produce of the United States in the Netherlands, so long as the reciprocal exemption should be extended to the vessels and produce of the United States in the Netherlands. But the same act provides that in the event of a restoration of discriminating duties, to operate against the shipping and commerce of the United States, in any of the foreign countries referred to therein, the suspension of discriminating duties in favor of the navigation of such foreign country should cease, and all the provisions of the acts imposing discriminating foreign tonnage and impost duties in the United States, should revive and be in full force with regard to that nation.

In the correspondence with the government of the Netherlands upon this subject, they have contended that the favor shown to their own shipping by this bounty upon their tonnage, is not to be considered as a discriminating duty. But it cannot be denied that it produces all the same effects. Had the mutual abolition been stipulated by treaty, such a bounty upon the national vessels could scarcely have been granted consistently with good faith. Yet, as the act of Congress of the 7th January, 1824, has not expressly authorized the Executive authority to determine what shall be considered as a revival of discriminating duties by a foreign Government to the disadvantage of the United States, and as the retaliatory measures on our part, however just and necessary, may tend rather to that conflict of legislation which we deprecate, than to that concert to which we invite all commercial nations, as most conducive to their interest and our own, I have thought it more consistent with the spirit of our institutions to refer the subject again to the paramount authority of the Legislature to decide what measure the emergency may require, than abruptly, by proclamation, to carry into effect the minatory provision of the act of 1824.

During the last session of Congress, treaties of amity, navigation, and commerce, were negotiated and signed at this place with the government of Denmark, in Europe, and with the Federation of Central America, in this hemisphere. These treaties then received the constitutional sanction of the Senate, by the advice and consent to their ratification. They were accordingly ratified on the part of the United States, and, during the recess of Congress, have been also ratified by the other respective contracting parties. The ratifications have been exchanged, and they have been published by Proclamations, copies of which are herewith communicated to Congress. These Treaties have established between the contracting parties the principles of equality and reciprocity in their broadest and most liberal extent: Each party admitting the vessels of the other into its port, laden with cargoes the produce or manufacture of any quarter of the globe, upon the payment of the same duties of tonnage and impost that are chargeable upon their own. They have further stipulated, that the parties shall hereafter grant no favor of navigation or commerce to any other nation, which shall not, upon the same terms, be granted to each other; and that neither party will impose upon articles of merchandise, the produce or manufacture of the other, any other or higher duties than upon the like articles, being the produce or manufacture of any other country. To these principles there is, in the Convention of Denmark, an exception, with regard to the Colonies of that kingdom in the Arctic Seas, but none with regard to the Colonies in the West Indies.

In the course of the last summer, the term to limited, has expired. A continuation of it is in the contemplation of the Swedish Government, and is believed to be desirable on the part of the United States. It has been proposed by the king of Sweden, that, pending the negotiation of renewal, the expired Treaty should be mutually considered as still in force; a measure which will require the sanction of Congress to be carried into effect on our part, and which I therefore recommend to your consideration.

With Prussia, Spain, Portugal, and in general all which our last Commercial Treaty with Sweden was the European powers, between whom and the United States relations of friendly intercourse have existed, their condition has not materially varied since the last session of Congress. I regret not to be able to say the same of our commercial intercourse with the Colonial Possessions of Great Britain, in America. Negotiations of the highest importance to our common interest have been for several years the discussion between the two governments; and on the part of the United States have been invariably pursued in the spirit of candor and conciliation. Interests of great magnitude and delicacy had been adjusted by the Conventions of 1815 and 1818, while that of 1822, mediated by the late emperor Alexander, had promised a satisfactory compromise of claims which the government of the United States, in justice to the rights of a numerous class of their citizens, was bound to sustain. But with regard to the commercial intercourse between the United States and the British Colonies in America, it has been hitherto found impracticable to bring the parties to an understanding satisfactory to both. The relative geographical position, and the respective products of nature cultivated by human industry, had constituted the elements of a commercial intercourse between the United States and British America, insular and continental, important to the inhabitants of both countries. But it had been interdicted by Great Britain, upon a principle heretofore, practised upon by the colonizing nations of Europe, of holding the trade of their colonies, each in exclusive monopoly to herself. After the termination of the late war, this interdiction had been revived, and the British government declined including this portion of our intercourse with her possessions in the negotiation of the Convention in 1815. The trade was then carried on exclusively in British vessels, till the act of Congress concerning navigation, of 1818, and the supplemental act of 1820, met the interdiction by a corresponding measure on the part of the United States. Those measures, not of retaliation, but of necessary self defence, were soon succeeded by an Act of Parliament, opening certain colonial ports to the vessels of the United States, coming directly from there, and to the importation from them of certain articles of our produce, burdened with

heavy duties, and excluding some of the most valuable articles of our exports. The United States opened their ports to British vessels from the colonies, upon terms as exactly corresponding with those of the Act of Parliament, as, in the relative position of the parties, could be made. And a negotiation was commenced by mutual consent, with the hope, on our part, that a reciprocal spirit of accommodation and a common sentiment of the importance of the trade to the interests of the inhabitants of the two countries, between whom it must be carried on, would ultimately bring the parties to a compromise, with which both might be satisfied. With this view, the government of the United States had determined to sacrifice something of that entire reciprocity which in all commercial arrangements with Foreign Powers they are entitled to demand, and to acquiesce in some inequalities disadvantageous to ourselves, rather than to forego the benefit of a final and permanent adjustment of this interest, to the satisfaction of Great Britain herself. The negotiation, repeatedly suspended by accidental circumstances, was, however, by mutual agreement and express assent, considered as pending, and to be speedily resumed. In the mean time, another act of the Parliament, so doubtful and ambiguous in its import as to have been misunderstood by the officers in the Colonies who were to carry it into execution, opened again certain colonial ports, upon new conditions and terms, with a threat to close them against any Nation which may not accept those terms, as prescribed by the British government. This act passed in July 1825, not communicated to the government of the United States, not understood by the British Officers of the Customs in the Colonies where it was to be enforced, was nevertheless submitted to the consideration of Congress, at their last session. With the knowledge that a negotiation upon the subject had long been in progress, and pledges given of its resumption at an early day, it was deemed expedient to await the result of that negotiation, rather than to subscribe implicitly to terms the import of which was not clear, and which the British authorities themselves, in this hemisphere, were not prepared to explain.

Immediately after the close of the late session of Congress, one of our most distinguished citizens was despatched as Envoy Extraordinary Minister Plenipotentiary to Great Britain, furnished with instructions which we could not doubt would lead to a conclusion of this long controverted interest, upon terms acceptable to Great Britain. Upon his arrival, and before he had delivered his letters of credence, he was met by an order of the British Council, excluding, from and after the first of December now current, the vessels of the United States from all the Colonial British ports, excepting those immediately bordering upon our Territories. In answer to his expostulations upon a measure thus unexpected, he is informed that, according to the ancient maxims of policy of European nations having colonies, their trade is an exclusive possession of the mother country. That all participation in it by other nations, is a boon or favor not forming a subject of negotiation, but to be regulated by the Legislative Acts of the Power owning the colony. That the British government, therefore, declines negotiating concerning it; and that, as the United States did not forthwith accept purely and simply the terms offered by the Act of Parliament, of July, 1825, Great Britain would not now admit the vessels of the United States even upon the terms on which she has opened them to the navigation of other nations.

We have been accustomed to consider the trade which we have enjoyed with the British Colonies, rather as an interchange of mutual benefits, than as a mere favor received; that, under every circumstance, we have given an ample equivalent. We have seen every other nation, holding Colonies, negotiate with other nations, and grant them, freely, admission to the Colonies by Treaty; and, so far are the other colonizing nations of Europe now from refusing to negotiate for trade with their Colonies, that we ourselves have secured access to the Colonies of more than one of them by Treaty.—The refusal, however, of Great Britain to negotiate, leaves to the United States no other alternative than that of regulating, or interdicting, altogether, the trade on their part, according as either measure may affect the interests of our own country; and, with that exclusive object, I would recommend the whole subject to your claim and candid deliberations.

It is hoped that our unavailing exertions to be accomplished a cordial good understanding on this interest, will not have an unpropitious effect upon the other great topics of discussion between the two governments.—Our northern and northwestern boundaries are still unadjusted. The commissioners under the seventh article of the treaty of Ghent have nearly come to the close of their labors; nor can we renounce the expectation, enfeebled as it is, that they may agree upon their Report, to the satisfaction or acquiescence of both parties. The Commission for liquidating the claims for indemnity for slaves carried away after the close of the war, has been sitting, with doubtful prospects of success. Propositions of compromise have, however, passed between the two governments, the result of which, we flatter ourselves, may yet prove satisfactory. Our own dispositions and purposes towards Great Britain are all friendly and conciliatory; nor can we abandon, but with strong reluctance, the belief that they will, ultimately, meet a return, not of favors, which we neither ask nor desire, but of equal reciprocity and good will.

With the American governments of this hemisphere we continue to maintain an intercourse altogether friendly, and between their nations and ours that commercial interchange of which mutual benefit is the source, and mutual comfort and harmony the result, is in a continual state of improvement. The war between Spain and them, since the total expulsion of the Spanish military force from their continental territories, has been little more than nominal; and their internal tranquillity, though occasionally menaced by the agitations which civil wars never fail to leave behind them, has not been affected by any serious calamity.

(To be Continued.)